

Abraham Lincoln papers

From Benjamin F. Whidden to William H. Seward¹, July 30, 1863

¹ Whidden was appointed the commissioner and consul general to Haiti in 1862.

[Marginal note:

Acknowledge

Send to President

Ask him to return]

Lancaster N. H.

July 30th 1863.

Sir,

You will see the reason of my writing from this place at this moment instead of Port-au-Prince, in my Despatch No. 30. of this date.

Since my arrival here my Secretary in charge of the Legation at Port-au-Prince has forwarded to me a copy of a letter from Mr De Long, the U. S. Consul at Aux Cayes in Hayti, setting forth the conduct of Monsieur Bernard Kock and the condition of the emigrants taken by him from the United States to Ile à Vache.² The Bills or Notes alluded to by Mr De Long are inclosed with this Despatch.

² See James De Long to Henry Conrad, June 25, 1863.

I have already called your attention to this matter in answering some inquiries in regard to Mr Kock and the emigrants under his charge at Ile à Vache, in a former Despatch.³

³ For more on Bernard Kock and his Ile à Vache colonization scheme, see Kock to Lincoln, October 4, 1862 and January 13, 1863; Jacob R. S. Van Vleet to Lincoln, October 4 and December 11, 1862; and Charles K. Tuckerman to Lincoln, March 31, 1863.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient Servant.

B. F. Whidden